

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SY-05 FBIE-00 L-03 MCT-01 SS-15
NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 PA-02 USIA-15
USSS-00 DHA-02 H-02 PM-04 SP-02 /090 R

DRAFTED BY EUR;SOV;LWILLEMS:REH
APPROVED BY EUR;SOV;MGARRISON
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
SY, FBI, L

-----171931Z 080580 /56

R 170151Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS STATE 059099

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROTEST ABOUT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST
AEROFLOT NY

1. FYI; SOVIET EMBASSY SENT BY MESSENGER THE FOLLOWING
DIPLOMATIC NOTE DATED MARCH 11 COMPLAINING ABOUT HARAS-
MENT AND DEMONSTRATIONS DIRECTED AT AEROFLOT OFFICE IN
NEW YORK:
2. "THE USSR EMBASSY CONSIDERS IT NECESSARY AGAIN TO CALL
THE US DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S ATTENTION TO THE COMPLETELY
ABNORMAL CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE AEROFLOT OFFICE IN
NEW YORK HAS TO FUNCTION.
3. "FOR MANY MONTHS PEOPLE HAVE REGULARLY ASSEMBLED AT THE
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ENTRANCE OF THE AEROFLOT OFFICE FOR THE PURPOSE OF HINDER-
ING IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE ITS NORMAL OPERATION BY
IMPUDENTLY PESTERING EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS. THE PARTICI-
PANTS OF THESE GATHERINGS SHOUT OBSCENITIES, INSULTS AND
DIRECT THREATS. ON TOP OF EVERYTHING ELSE, UNKNOWN PER-
SONS SYSTEMATICALLY TELEPHONE THE AEROFLOT OFFICE, BLOCKING
THE REGULAR LINES, AND USE FOUL AND OBSCENE LANGUAGE, ETC.

SIMILAR OUTRAGES, WELL-KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES,
UNTIL NOW HAVE NOT BEEN SUPPRESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH US

LAWS IN FORCE.

4. "THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ALSO KNOWS THAT CRIMINAL
ELEMENTS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BREAK INTO THE PREMISES OF THE
AEROFLOT OFFICE AND THAT THE OFFICE HAS RECEIVED BOMB
THREATS.

5. "IT IS APPROPRIATE TO REMIND YOU ONCE MORE OF THE
FOLLOWING FACTS"

"ON MARCH 8, 1976, THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION IN THE
IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE PREMISES WHERE AEROFLOT
EMPLOYEES WORK, WHICH, ONLY BY SHEER LUCK, DID NOT LEAD TO
FATAL INJURIES.

"ON JANUARY 23, 1977, CRIMINAL ELEMENTS THREW A BOTTLE
WITH PAINT AT THE WINDOW OF THE AEROFLOT OFFICE.

"ON 5 FEBRUARY 14, 1977, UNDER SLOGANS HOSTILE TO THE
USSR, SO-CALLED DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED AT
THE ENTRANCE TO THE AEROFLOT OFFICE AND, AS THE AMERICAN
MASS INFORMATION PUT IT, THIS OUTRAGE IS TO OCCUR DAILY.

6. "IT IS LEGITIMATE TO ASK HOW FAR MUST THE ACTIONS OF
CRIMINAL ELEMENTS AGAINST THE AEROFLOT OFFICE GO BEFORE
THE US AUTHORITIES WILL TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR THEIR
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SUPPRESSION? IT IS NOT DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THAT THINGS
CAN ALSO DEGENERATE INTO ACTS OF BRUTAL PHYSICAL VIOLENCE
AGAINST SOVIET CITIZENS, AND THUS RESULT IN SERIOUS
MATERIAL DAMAGE TO THIS SOVIET ESTABLISHMENT.

7."IN CALLING THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S ATTENTION FOR
THE N-TH TIME TO THE FACT THAT THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES
FAIL TO TAKE MEASURES TO ENSURE NORMAL WORKING CONDITIONS
FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENT
AEROFLOT IN NEW YORK, THE EMBASSY LODGES A PROTEST WITH
THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DEMANDS THAT, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE ELEMENTARY RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LIFE AND RELA-
TIONS, NORMAL CONDITIONS FINALLY BE CREATED FOR THE OPERA-
TION OF THE AEROFLOT OFFICE IN NEW YORK AND THAT THE PROPER
SAFETY OF ITS EMPLOYEES BE ENSURED."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CIVIL AVIATION, HARASSMENT, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE059099
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: REH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770092-0147
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770349/aaaabqis.tel
Line Count: 113
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 140d7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3075487
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PROTEST ABOUT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST AEROFLOT NY
TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, UR, US
To: MOSCOW USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/140d7db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009